

#### W4VHF Ted Goldthorpe President W4GRW Bill Fisher Vice-Pres. W3ZL Cliff Wagoner Sec.-Treas. K4MD Joe Simpkins Cluster Mgr. W3OA Dick Williams Contest Mgr. W3GQ Paul Sturpe Cluster Mgr.-North Area WB4BXW Wayne Setzer Webmaster NV4A John Forbus Editor

# The Pileup Newsletter of the CDXA

#### **CDXA Takes 2nd Place in 2012 Field Day**

Dick Williams, W3OA

CDXA, operating W4DXA from the QTH of KI4TZ, took second place nationwide in Category 3E in this year's Field Day event. W4DXA scored 9,946 points. You can read how we did this on page 1 of the July 2012 *Pileup* (http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa1207.pdf).



Here are some different ways to compare our score to others:

- W4DXA was 1st among the 17 entries in Category 3E.
- W4DXA was 1st among all 29 entries in the South Carolina Section, even though for some reason the ARRL scores database shows us in North Carolina.
- W4DXA was 6th among all 204 entries in the Roanoke Division.
- W4DXA was 49th among all 2,617 entries in all categories.

So it was another successful W4DXA Field Day effort. *Thank You* to all who participated! Planning has started for Field Day 2013 when we will return to KI4TZ's QTH. Please put Field Day on your schedule for June 29 and 30, 2013.

CDXA PacketCluster & Other Communication Systems		
K4MD (AR Cluster via Telnet)	k4md.no-ip.com	
W4DXA (AR Cluster via Telnet)	w4dxa.no-ip.com	
CDXA Repeater 147.18 MHz (+600)	W4DXA, Near Fort Mill, SC	
World Wide Web Homepage	www.cdxa.org	
Wednesday Luncheon (11:30 AM)	Skyland Family Restaurant, 4544 South Boulevard, Charlotte, NC	

#### **Welcome to New Members**

With the Holiday and Contesting Seasons upon us, we're happy to welcome these new members:

Ronald Ford, W4RJF, 129 Peach Orchard Dr., Benson, NC 27504, 919-894-8707, rjf802@gmail.com.

Sam Bridges, KJ4ZM, 161 York St., Chester, SC 29706, 803-385-2988, sbsagan@truvista.net.



# To get us in the proper mood for the holidays, here are some important questions and answers

What do elves learn in school? The Elf-abet!

What nationality is Santa Claus? North Polish.

What kind of bird can write? A PENguin.

What do you get if you deep fry Santa Claus? Crisp Cringle.

And, with that, on to the Holiday Party.....

#### The Pileup

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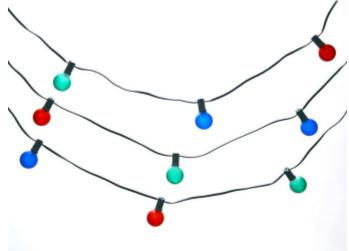
The purpose of the association is to secure for the members the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons having a common interest in Amateur Radio.

Members of the CDXA shall adhere to "The Amateur's Code" as published from time to time in *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs*, and shall consist of those valid licensed amateur operators having an interest in promoting amateur radio. Long distance communications (DX) is of special interest to members of the association, but said interest is not a requirement of membership.

Yearly dues are \$25.00. A second licensed Amateur family member living in the same household can join for \$5.00 for a total family price of \$30.00 per year. The total price for 3 or more licensed family members living in the same household is only \$35.00 per year. All family members enjoy full member status. Dues are payable annually in December by check or through the CDXA website, to the Secretary/Treasurer:

Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL P. O. Box 577 Davidson, NC 28036

Address, telephone, and email address changes should be directed to the Secretary. Treasurer at the above address or via email at: jcw53@cornell.edu.



#### It's Holiday Party and Election Time

The 2012 Holiday Party is just around the corner. We're having a change in venue this year. We have booked Toast of Dilworth, on Park Road, for Thursday December 13th. We are having a buffet for the first time, in an effort to reduce the time it takes members to get their meals. The buffet will be two sided to make things go faster, and fresh salads will be at every seat, so members can start eating as soon as they sit down while waiting for their table to be called to the buffet. Another change aimed at speeding things up is that everyone will pay on entering the restaurant, eliminating the delay at end of evening waiting to pay your bill. The price for a choice of three entrees, and a dessert of either pumpkin pie or banana pudding, is \$25.00. There will be a cash bar which will include some specials: several \$5 wines, and a few \$2 beers. We hope to see you all there. The Holiday Party RSVP form with all the details including the start time, the menu, and how to get to the Toast is at http://goo.gl/41aT9.

The Annual Election will also be held at the Party. You can also vote by Proxy, by going to <a href="http://goo.gl/zzBuZ">http://goo.gl/zzBuZ</a>

This year's election is going to be significant for a couple of reasons. First, and foremost, is that our president, Ted Goldthorpe, W4VHF, is retiring after two "tours of duty" totaling about 12 years. See what the ARRL NC Section Newsletter has to say

(Continued from page 2)

about Ted, on Page 8 of this *Pileup*. Hal Bouton, N4QT, has thrown his hat into the ring for President, as reflected in the Proxy. To help you get to know Hal better, a Question and Answer Session with him is included below.

The other big news is that the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society has agreed to transfer the QSL Bureau for single prefix "4"s from MARS to CDXA. The ARRL has to approve the change, as does our membership. See the section of the Proxy titled "Proposed Amendment to the Carolina DX Association Bylaws." There will also be a new

board-level position for "W4 QSL Manager" created once the transfer is approved and completed. Paul Sturpe, W3GO, has



volunteered to have his name put on the ballot for this post. If everything goes through as planned, and Paul is elected, he'll be replacing another long-time CDXAer, Ken Boyd, K4DXA, who has managed the Bureau, shown in the picture, for the last six years. Before Ken, Joe Blackwell, AA4NN, was manager for eight years, and Roger, N4ZC, preceded Joe, managing the Bureau for many years. Thanks to Ken, Joe and Roger for all those years of behind the scenes effort.

With all this going on, it's important that everyone vote, whether by proxy, or in person at the Party.

Here are Hal Bouton's responses to a series of questions and answers posed by the Election Committee:

#### How long have you been a HAM?

I was licensed in April of 1958. I think that's 54 years ago. How time flies!

### How long have you been a CDXA member? Since 2001

What accomplishment are you the most proud of in

#### ham radio?

Three major accomplishments:

- 1. My interest in ham radio led directly to a 38 year successful career in the broadcasting industry.
- 2. My second major success has been my 265 confirmed country count . My original DXCC certificate is dated September 1979.
- 3. Last, but certainly not least, was passing my Extra Class exam in Feb. 2001, which was indeed a major hurdle for me. I am not a math wiz kid!

## **How many DXCC countries have you worked/ confirmed?**

As stated above my count is at 265 confirmed.

#### How many contests do you operate annually?

I am not involved in ham radio contests. I have worked the CQ and ARRL contests in the past to confirm new countries.

#### What attracted you to the CDXA?

The high quality of our membership. I learn something new at every Wednesday CDXA lunch and at our special events. The CDXA is the only ham club I have had any interest in over my 54 years in the hobby.

## What leadership or management experience do you bring to this position?

I bring 38 years in various management positions in the broadcasting industry. This includes 25 years as the President and CEO of both the Redding, California PBS affiliate and my last 20 years as President and CEO of WTVI-TV Charlotte's PBS affiliate.

## <u>If elected, what is your vision for the CDXA in the future?</u>

I would like to see us continue growing our membership. Our continued success in our contest activities brings a national focus on our club. We need to continue financial support of major DXpeditions around the world. Most of all we should al-

ways support and encourage the growth of our hobby through the exchange of ideas and knowledge among our membership.

Hal Bouton, N4QT



Hal, N4QT with his wife, Debbie, before he threw his hat into the ring

# CDXA Will Award Prizes in ARRL Ten Meter Contest

(Ten Meters Is Back – Join the Fun)

CDXA is continuing our efforts to improve our standing in the Ten Meter Club Competition. In 2009 we were number 27 of 28 entries. In 2010 we made a big jump up to number 7 of 30. But in 2011 we dropped back to 14<sup>th</sup>. In order to return to the top 10 we will again give Outback Steak House gift cards to three top scoring CDXA members and raffle off a fourth among all other CDXA participants making 100 or more QSOs.

#### More important points:

- Contest starts at 7 pm EST Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, and ends at 7 pm Sunday. Operate no more than 36 hours.
- Once again the 32 states of Mexico count as multipliers. Make sure your logging software is up to date and scores the Mexican multipliers.
- The exchange is just a signal report and state.

Review the contest rules at <a href="http://www.arrl.org/10-meter">http://www.arrl.org/10-meter</a>.

The top three scoring entries will receive a \$50 Outback Steak House gift card.

A fourth prize of a \$50 Outback Steak House gift card will be raffled off among other CDXA members who complete 100 or more QSOs. This includes operators at multi operator stations whose score will count for CDXA.

Only members whose scores are eligible for the club competition (meet the 175 mile criteria) as defined in the contest rules can win the Gift Cards.

Prizes will be based on claimed scores. You must send your score to <u>w3oa@roadrunner.com</u> by December 17 to be eligible for a prize.

So get on the air and have some fun on ten meters.



#### **DX King News** Dick Williams, W3OA



Item 1: Full details of our DX King Contest and your chances to win a 10 inch tablet computer are on page 3 of the January Pileup <a href="http://cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa1201.pdf">http://cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa1201.pdf</a>

Item 2: Here are the scores I have for the 2012 DX King competition as of October 31:

Call	Category	Countries	Zones	Total
K5EK	Unlimited	284	40	324
N4ZC	Unlimited	284	40	324
W2HTI	Unlimited	280	40	320
AA4SC	Unlimited	273	40	313
W4HG	Unlimited	268	40	308
KO4DI	Unlimited	267	40	307
K4GHS	Unlimited	259	40	299
W3GQ	Unlimited	257	40	297
N4PQX	Unlimited	229	40	269
W3ZL	Formula	206	37	243
KZ2I	Unlimited	202	40	242
K2SX	Unlimited	196	40	236
W3OA	Unlimited	193	40	233
W1AJT	Unlimited	190	39	229
K8YC	Unlimited	175	38	213
NK0S	Unlimited	157	34	191
W4WNT	Formula	142	33	175
N2TU	Unlimited	138	37	175
K1MIJ	Unlimited	124	29	153
N4QVM	Unlimited	118	30	148
K4DXA	Unlimited	108	33	141
NV4A	Unlimited	105	29	134
K4ESE*	Unlimited	96	22	118

<sup>\*</sup> All 80 meters

Item 3: Don't forget to send me (w3oa@roadrunner.com) your DX marathon scores as of the last day of each month after your score reaches 100.

#### **CQWW CW Starts Friday after Thanksgiving**

Dick Williams, W3OA

The SSB contest was a lot of fun – the high bands were open like last year. Ten meters was especially good and was the highest scoring band for most of our entries. Let's hope the CW weekend is just as good. As of this writing, our Club score is almost 26 million points. Last year we were at just over 33 million points. Why the big decline this year? The main reason is that none of our members participated in major contest DXpeditions, as AA4V has done recently. So we need a very strong effort in the CW contest to reach our goal of getting CDXA back to the top ten in the club competition. See the following article in this issue on how to take advantage of our network of CW Skimmers to improve your score. After you finish your Thanksgiving celebration, get on the air, have some fun, and contribute to CDXA's club score. Everyone's contribution will help.

Doug (K4LY), Roger (N4ZC), Paul (W3GQ), Dick (W3OA), and Gary (W7DO) formed the CDXA five-man SSB team. The Team scored almost 12.9 million points. This is very close to last year's best ever score of 13.6 million points.

Everyone who operates in the contest should submit their log to CQ to contribute to our Club score. CQ will send you an email confirming receipt. If you didn't get the email, you need to resubmit. Full details on how to do this are in the contest rules at <a href="http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm">http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm</a>. Remember to show "Carolina DX Association" as your Club.

The deadline for submitting logs to CQ is Friday after the contest at 2400 UTC, November 30. That's 7 pm EST.

I need your results at the same time so I can have the CWAC prizes ready to present at our December 13<sup>th</sup> CDXA party. Send me your number of QSOs, number of countries, number of zones, and total score. Additionally, I need your power level (high, low, or QRP) and whether or not you were assisted. And, if you made over 1000 QSOs, your preference for a prize – trophy or Outback Steak House gift card. Send them to w3oa@roadrunner.com.

Some Soapbox Comments (some edited for brevity):

**K4DXA**: Could not do full time. Still had fun and worked some good stuff, missed some also. The stations that were perceived as the only one in a zone were massive pileups and guys were calling on top of them. I don't think they could hear them!

**K2SX**: Had antenna problems most of the weekend but it (yes, singular) finally gave out Sunday morning. And, that happened before the Perfect Storm passed by. Such is life...

**K4LY**: 10 meters was surprisingly good especially considering the SS numbers. This was the first time I had 3 band DXCC in a CQWW, all S+P. Was asked to participate on Carolina DX Association 5-man team so knew I had to get the station back in order. Used trusty old TS-850 instead of the Flex 1500- my favorite toy. Ran assisted to maximize score and that presented problems for me. I'm not very familiar clicking on a band map and on several occasions I mindlessly was calling stations below our band limits, so I will have to somehow eliminate those contacts from my score, but still keep them in the log so others don't get penalized. Murphy was present. My mic was occasionally intermittent through Saturday evening when I finally changed to a different one. I lost my rotator at 2 PM local on Sunday and had to use my 40M dipole for most 10/15/20 directions after that. Cost me some mults. I think this was my first real contest effort since turning 70 two years ago. Hope I'm good for a few more. Using real old Hygain TH3 Jr, 40M dipole, Hytower on 80M, and 160M inverted L.

**K4UWH**: Kind of a rough weekend down here on the coast but no real damage problems. 100 Watts. Ten Tec Omni 7, GAP Titian vertical - - Very unusual to find me on SSB – Mainly a CW guy here. Conditions sounded pretty good.

**K5EK**: What a difference 3db (kw vs 500 w) makes in a basic search and pounce operation.

**KZ2I**: Here's my totals for CQWW. Higher than I expected because Cec had to go back to NJ and our plans were canceled. Probably could have been better, but since this was supposed to be a non-competitive outing, I never got around to putting new finals in the amplifier. And didn't work on the antennas. And we had 3 hour neighborhood power failure on Friday night. To add to the fun, I've come up with a bout of diverticulitis. The doc is treating with antibiotics.

One of those caused me to 'pray to the great god RALPH' for most of Thursday. Then went for CT scan Friday, so the dye and all are doing their wonderful things. Even got 7 hours sleep both nights! But at least the contest took it all off of my mind for a while.

**K8YC**: It was work with the 15m section of one exciter not working and the other exciter which had 15m not being able to be connected to a linear amp. Yet, the competitive juices flowed a little (more than I'd ever have guessed) and I probably had about 9 hours in the chair. Sure hope by 2013 or 2014 there is a beam in my life.

**N4PQX**: The Good: Business trip cancelled so got to contest, very good conditions, had fun. The Bad: Had to work Sunday so just Sunday early am for contesting, Horrid line noise all bands below 20m (especially Sat. night) so very few low band contacts, limited chair time. Heard most of the gang and conditions at least as good if not better than last year, so I expect there will be huge scores, hope everyone did well. 10m was great. Only 18 hours 20 minutes of chair time, but managed a decent score despite all S&P.

**N4ZC**: The price you pay for good 10m is poor low bands. I worked 155 DXCC. Every year gets harder but I never would have thought, years ago, I'd be doing this well at 74. This was my 55th year of CQWW. Best result was 1960, #4 world as KP4AOO.

**W4WNT**: The CQ WW Phone contest was great this year. Definitely improved my score due to conditions and more time on the air. Pacific stations all over the 10m band helped, as did having 10m open so much of the time.

**W4ZV**: My top Yagi is broken so I only used the lower two...a little handicap in beaming multiple directions at times. Conditions here were definitely down compared to last year and especially noticeable to the Far East. I missed zones 18, 23, 24, 26, 34 and 39. I did hear a couple of very weak zone 24 but conditions were such that there was no point in even calling. I'm sorry to say it but it appears that last Fall was the short-term sunspot/flux peak and the 12 month Smoothed Sunspot Number (SSN) may have peaked in February 2012. Oh well, it was fun while it lasted. Back to the low bands!

W7DO: 500 Q's on Ten Meters, Amazing Propagation!

#### ...Last (and Least) the Perspective From PJ7

The good news is that, based on the posted raw scores, the team of Chris, WW4CP, and John, NV4A, was #1 in PJ7 for the CQWW Phone Contest. The bad news is that we were #81 out of 81 for multi-op stations in North America! OK, so we didn't really go to St. Maarten to score big in the contest, especially since we didn't arrive until late Saturday afternoon local time. We did at least expect to get on the air and make some contacts Sat. night, and had high hopes for Sunday. Murphy's Law struck, first in the form of very bad traffic from the airport to the hotel (local construction), and then in the form of a combination of software problems, and the Buddipole-based 20m dipole not getting out very well, in spite of our location right next to the ocean. Last, but not least, we learned that St. Maarten follows the US bandplan ...so no going below the US band to find a clear CQ frequency. Anyway, while Chris got his Flex 3000 oper-

ating with N1MM Sunday morning, I set the Buddipole up as a full sized 10m vertical with two radials. Everything worked fine, and 10m was wide-open, but it was too late to make a lot of difference.

While we didn't do much in the contest, we did get to spend some time with a local ham, Marco Ferrante, PJ7MF. Chris had met Marco on a previous visit. This trip we got to help him successfully diagnose a problem with his amplifier and spend some time just visiting with him: nice guy! Be sure to look for him on the air, and in case you ever get to St. Maarten, look him up. He's the manager of Izi's, a very nice Italian restaurant. Here he is outside our temporary QTH with the Buddipole just peeking out between us, and the water behind us.



#### CDXA Skimmer Network in CQWW - A Little Different this Time

Dick Williams, W3OA

Note for previous users: This article is a revision to an article in the November 2011 Pileup. The revision is needed to incorporate the "unique>" filter and recognize that the "spotterituzone=" filter is broken in the current version of the node software.

CDXA will again be providing CW Skimmer spots for this month's CQWW contest. The plan is to have single band Skimmers running at K4DXA, N2TU, and W3GQ and a six band Skimmer at W3OA. We can easily add more locations so please let me know if you will be running a Skimmer and would like your spots available for other CDXA members.

Users will be able to get spots from the traditional Packet Cluster system plus spots from Skimmers in different size geographical areas. These areas can be from one Skimmer to one state all the way up to the whole World.

Here are a couple of ways you can use this system:

- 1) The simplest way to use the system involves just setting up your logging software, such as N1MM, to use the server at w3oa.no-ip.org as your source for Telnet spots. I've set up that node so that when users first connect they will get the normal human generated spots from spotters in the US plus verified Skimmer spots that come from Skimmers in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, or Virginia. (Note that if you have used this node before the node will use the filter settings you had when you last used this node.) If you would prefer to have a different default filter in place when you connect to w3oa.no-ip.org, just let me know what you want and I'll set it up for you.
- 2) You can change the filter used to determine which spots you get by sending the appropriate command string from the N1MM Telnet window to the server. I want to be able to select different size geographical areas for the Skimmers sending me spots so I'll have a number of different strings to select. An example command string is:

#### set dx filter spottercty=k and ((not skimmer) or master or unique>2))

This is interpreted as a logical expression. The spottercty=k tells the server to only send spots from spotters in the US. The ((not skimmer) or master or unique>2)) clause says send spots which (1) don't come from a Skimmer (i.e. a human sent it), or (2) are for a station on a master list of known contest stations, or (3) are for a station which has been spotted by more than two Skimmers. You can read more about constructing such filters at <a href="http://ab5k.net/">http://ab5k.net/</a> ArcDocsVer6%5CUserManual%5CArcDx.htm

I will use six of N1MM's Telnet buttons to send six different strings for different spotter source areas:

Button Label	String
Laber	String
CDXA	set dx filter ((not skimmer) and spottercty=k) or ((spotter=w3oa-# or spotter=k4dxa-# or spotter=w3gq-# or spotter=n2tu-#) and (master or unique>1))
NC, SC	set dx filter ((not skimmer) and spottercty=k) or ((spotterstate=nc or spotterstate=sc) and (master or unique>1))
Close	set dx filter ((not skimmer) and spottercty=k) or ((spotterstate=nc or spotterstate=sc or spotter-state=ga or spotterstate=va) and (master or unique>1))
So East	set dx filter ((not skimmer) and spottercty=k) or ((spotterstate=nc or spotterstate=sc or spotter- state=ga or spotterstate=va or spotterstate=al or spotterstate=fl or spotterstate=tn or spotter- state=ky or spotterstate=wv) and (master or unique>1))
US	set dx filter spottercty=k and ((not skimmer) or master or unique>2)
World	set dx filter

This way I can change the spotter source area on the fly during the contest. There are lots of other variations you may want to try.

The command **show dx filter** will cause the server to send your Telnet window a message showing your current filter.

There are a couple of problems you might encounter with N1MM:

- You can send commands to the W3OA server by entering them into the Type: box at the top of the Telnet Window. But if you put an "=" sign in that box the radio starts transmitting (an N1MM feature.) So, substitute the macro "{EQUAL}" for "=" to avoid this problem.
- N1MM has built in filters to control what is shown in the Available Mults and Qs window. You can set these from the right click options on that window. If you don't see all the spots you expect it might be because these filters are set too tight.

The server at w3oa.no-ip.org is running during the days now and will be running 24/7 from November 17<sup>th</sup> until the contest is over. This gives you time to get set up to use the server before the contest starts.

Let me know (<u>w3oa@roadrunner.com</u>) if you'd like some help getting set up to use CDXA's Skimmer network.

# AA4ZZ Team Scores Big in the 2012 June VHF QSO party

The ARRL has posted the 2012 June VHF QSO Party results, and AA4ZZ was fifth in the USA in the limited multi-op class. Of the ten operators participating (K4DXA\*, K4IVF, K8YC\*, KI4TZ\*, KU4V\*, N4LED\*, W3OA\*, W4GRW\*, W4MW, WW4CP\*), eight were CDXA members (the calls with the asterisks.) This gave CDXA the #13 spot in the nation in the Club Competition for Medium clubs. Congratulations to the team.



## It's Time to Pay CDXA Dues



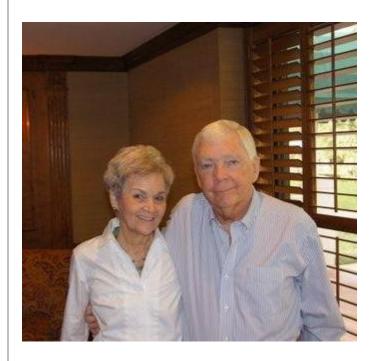
With all these fun activities going on, let's not forget that the end of the year is coming, which means that our dues of \$25.00 are due by 12/31/12. You may use PayPal on the Web Site (<a href="http://www.cdxa.org/form-application-cdxa.shtml">http://www.cdxa.org/form-application-cdxa.shtml</a>) or mail a check made out to CDXA to our Secretary-Treasurer, Cliff Wagoner @ "CDXA, POB 577, Davidson, NC 28036." Thanks in advance!

# This "just in" from the latest ARRL NC Section Newsletter:

#### "LONGTIME CDXA PRESIDENT TED GOLDTHORPE, W4VHF, STEPPING DOWN

For those who like to chase DX, we are fortunate to have an ARRL affiliated dedicated DX club located in North Carolina: the Carolinas DX Association. Although based in Charlotte, it serves members throughout North and South Carolina, and in many other states. Not many ARRL sections have a DX club, so take advantage of its resources and superb website at <a href="https://www.cdxa.org">www.cdxa.org</a> Ted, W4VHF, has been the long time chief of CDXA and after many years of unflagging service, he and his equally hard working YL Itice, K4LVV, are taking some well deserved time off. Thanks Ted and Itice for your expert leadership in making DX fun in the Carolinas."

...and Ted and Itice, Thanks from all of us in CDXA!



#### The Wayback Machine

#### Ten Years Ago in the Pileup:

CDXA President Bill Turner, W4WNT, notes that "...the contest season is upon us." In addition to an admonition to submit logs to CQ, log summaries were to go to W4VHF. Bill added "Ted is providing a certificate for all CDXA members who make more than 500 contacts and send their logs into CQ identifying CDXA as their club affiliation." Bill also mentioned something about getting his Cabrillo logs loaded on his DOS 3.1 machine ...whatever that is.

Since it was holiday party and election time, Bill also stressed that the club was looking for a new president and vice president! The annual holiday party was to be held at John's Restaurant on 2002 Westinghouse Boulevard in Charlotte.

In the holiday spirit, the *Pileup* editor ...that would have been John, K8YC, included an article entitled "**Preparing your Contesting Software**" which primarily consists of a slightly modified Dr. Seuss classic. It's a hoot, even if it's a bit dated now. Check out the Pileup archives at <a href="http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa0211.pdf">http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa0211.pdf</a>

And there was this cartoon, which should make us thankful for LOTW.



No, I don't collect QSL-cards any more...

#### Twenty Years Ago in the Pileup:

Roger, N4ZC, filled the front page with a detailed look at why some people might be having problems connecting to the packet cluster. Reasons Roger discussed included too much deviation from FM transceivers, incorrect audio receive level, and a host of potential TNC setup problems.

The Holiday Party/Election was to be held at the Branding Iron Restaurant.

Gary, K4MQG, reported that Ken, WA4OBO, was getting ready to head to N'Djamena, Chad for 2-3 weeks, working with the Government there consulting on their cotton and textile industry. He was planning to set aside several days for operating on all HF bands, as TT8OBO, with equipment including a Kenwood 450, Yaesu 990, and an SB200 amp, all donated/loaned to the effort. Ken was also planning a return trip in February '93, with some days built in for operation as well.

#### Looking to the Future

It's fun to look back, but next year will bring a new president for CDXA, and I am certain, continued success in our contesting efforts, and a steadily increasing membership.

One of the fun things we're looking at for upcoming *Pielups* is a "Who is this?" feature. We are trying to gather some pictures of CDXAers when they were, let's say, a little younger. You get to figure out who they are. ...And if you don't recognize your own picture, what can I say? Please help this noble effort by providing pictures, whether from your (or another member's) early hamming years, high school yearbook pictures, heck, even baby pictures.

Also, we would very much appreciate articles, article ideas, pictures, jokes and anecdotes, tales of DXpeditions past, or pretty much anything else you'd be willing to contribute to help with keeping the *Pileup* interesting.

Send anything and everything to me at itfnv4a@aol.com.

#### The Back Page

- The front page news is that CDXA, operating W4DXA from the QTH of KI4TZ, took second place nationwide in Category 3E in this year's Field Day event. Congratulations to all involved!
- Read about the upcoming Holiday Party on Page 2, and about the changes in format and venue. Be sure to follow the web link to sign up.
- The annual elections will also be held at the Party. We'll have some important things to consider this year, with a new President to elect, a change in Bylaws to take over the K4, N4, W4 Incoming QSL Bureau from MARS, and a new board position to be created assuming the Bureau change goes through: "W4 QSL Manager." There's also a web link to a Proxy on Page 2. Please be sure to submit a Proxy if you can't be at the Party.
- CQWW Phone is "in the bag" and CQWW CW is on its way, starting on 23 November at 1900 EST (0000 UDT on the 24th.) Also don't forget to put the ARRL 10 Meter Contest, from 1900 EST Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, until 1900 EST Sunday, on your calendar. There will be prizes for the top scorers!
- Speaking of top scores, CDXA did very well in the June ARRL VHF Contest. Check out the details on Page 8. Also, the DX King Competition is going to the wire. Details are on Page 4.
- We wish Ted and Itice well, as Ted steps down from the post of President, which he's held for many years. See Page 8 for a very nice tribute to Ted and to CDXA in the most recent ARRL NC Section Newsletter.
- Be sure to get your dues in, either via Paypal, or directly to Cliff, following the directions on Page 8.

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